

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 are currently pending. Claims 1-4, 6, 11-13, and 17-19 have been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-14, and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,532,368 to Hild et al. (hereinafter “the ‘368 patent”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0110087 to Zelig et al. (hereinafter “the ‘087 application”); Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘368 patent and the ‘087 application, further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0018751 to Lee et al. (hereinafter “the ‘751 application”); and Claims 9 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘368 patent and the ‘087 application, further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0175020 to Park et al. (hereinafter “the ‘020 application”).

Amended Claim 17 is directed to a remote control method using a terminal device connected to a first network and an information processing server connected to a second network, comprising: (1) setting a tunnel between the terminal device and the information processing server based on an IP address of the second network assigned in advance to the information processing server and an IP address of the first network assigned to the terminal device; (2) transmitting a broadcast or multicast packet output from one or more service providing servers on the first network to the information processing server via the tunnel from the terminal device to cause the information processing server to find the service providing servers and services provided by the service providing servers; (3) notifying the

terminal device of the services found, from the information processing server via the tunnel;
(4) transmitting by the terminal device an execution request of the service to the information processing server not via the tunnel when the terminal device receives a request of executing the service through a user input; and (5) when the execution request is received by the information processing server, transmitting by the information processing server a packet addressed to a service providing server providing the service, which has the IP address assigned to the information processing server as a transmission source address not via the tunnel, and thereby conducting data communication concerning the service between the service providing server providing the service and the information processing server not via the tunnel. The changes to Claim 17 are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

Regarding the rejection of Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Office Action asserts that the '368 patent discloses everything in Claim 17 with the exception of the step of setting a tunnel between the terminal device and the information processing server, transmitting a broadcast or multicast packet via the tunnel, and if the execution request of the server is received by the information processing server, transmitting a packet addressed to a service providing server to conduct data communication concerning the server not via the tunnel, and relies on the '087 application to remedy those deficiencies.²

The '368 patent is directed to a method for advertising service offerings in a communication system having two devices, including the steps of transmitting from each device, service information including information about the device, wherein the two devices form an ad hoc group. In particular, the '368 patent discloses a method for introducing a new device into an ad hoc wireless local network, and a method for the device to announce its services to another device in the local network.

¹ See, e.g., Figures 19-21 and pages 19-20 in the specification.

² See page 10 of the outstanding Office Action.

However, as admitted in the outstanding Office Action, the '368 patent fails to disclose the step of setting a tunnel between the terminal device and the information processing server based on an IP address of the second network assigned in advance to the information processing server and an IP address of the first network assigned to the terminal device, as recited in amended Claim 17.

Further, as admitted in the outstanding Office Action, the '368 patent fails to disclose transmitting a broadcast or multicast packet output from one or more service providing servers on the first network to the information processing server via the tunnel from the terminal device, as recited in amended Claim 17.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the '368 patent fails to disclose a step of transmitting by the terminal device an execution request of the service to the information processing server not via the tunnel when the terminal device receives a request of executing the service by the user input, as recited in amended Claim 17.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the '368 patent fails to disclose that when the execution request is received by the information processing server, transmitting by the information processing server a packet addressed to a service providing server providing the service, which has the IP address assigned to the information processing server as a transmission source address not via the tunnel, and thereby conducting data communication concerning the service between the service providing server providing the service and the information processing server and not via the tunnel, as recited in amended Claim 17.

The '087 application is directed to a method for establishing a data link service connection for a bi-directional service provided between first and second nodes through a network. In particular, the '087 application discloses that the steps in the method include generating a local index at the first node indicative of a service to be provided, and response to a request to initiate the service connection; setting a first signaling message containing the

index from the first node and service parameters of both of the nodes via the network to the second node; initiating the service connection at the second node in response to the index and the service parameters, and sending a second signaling message via the network to the first node; and upon receiving the second signaling message at the first node, activating the service indicated by the index. Thus, the '087 application discloses a general procedure for setting a tunnel between first and second nodes.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '087 application fails to disclose the step of notifying the terminal device of the services found, from the information processing server via the tunnel, as recited in amended Claim 17. In particular, Applicants note that the Office Action relies on the '368 patent as disclosing the notifying step, but that the notifying step recited in Claim 17 has been amended to clarify that the notifying step is performed via the tunnel, which is clearly not disclosed by the '368 patent, which is not directed to the use of tunnels. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that the '087 application does not disclose notifying terminal devices of services found via a tunnel, as required by amended Claim 17.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the '087 application fails to disclose the step of transmitting, by the terminal device an execution request of the service to the information processing server not via the tunnel when the terminal device receives a request of executing the service through a user input, as recited in amended Claim 17. Applicants respectfully submit that the '087 application is silent regarding user input prompting the transmitting of execution request of a service to an information processing server not via the tunnel.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the '087 application fails to disclose the step of when the execution request is received by the information processing server, transmitting by the information processing server a packet addressed to a service providing

server providing the service, which has the IP address assigned to the information processing server as a transmission source address not via the tunnel, and thereby conducting data communication concerning the service between the service providing server providing the service and the information processing server not via the tunnel, as recited in amended Claim 17. In particular, Applicants note that the '087 application is directed to a communication via a tunnel and is further silent regarding transmitting a packet not via a tunnel when an execution request is received by an information processing server, as required by amended Claim 17.

Thus, no matter how the teachings of the '368 patent and the '087 application are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest the notifying and transmitting steps recited in Claim 17, as well as the step of when the execution request is received by the information processing server, transmitting by the information processing server a packet addressed to a service providing server not via the tunnel, as recited in amended Claim 17.

Further, contrary to the remarks set forth in the outstanding Office Action, Applicants' previous amendment also addressed the combination of references, and addressed the references individually as well to show that the individual deficiencies of the references would not be cured by the combination. In particular, Applicants note that the '368 patent is directed to a method for advertising service offerings in a communication system having two devices, but is silent regarding the use of tunnels, while the '087 application is directed to a method for establishing a data link service connection for a bi-directional service between first and second nodes using a tunnel. However, Applicants note that the combined teachings of the '368 patent and the '087 application would not teach or suggest the functional limitations recited in method Claim 17. In particular, Applicants note that amended Claim 17 recites the transmitting of an execution request when a terminal device receives a request through user input, as well as transmitting a packet by the

information processing server when the execution is received from the terminal device. In particular, while Claim 17 recites steps that are performed and communication that is performed via a tunnel and communication not via a tunnel, Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action has not provided any evidence that either of the '368 patent or the '087 application disclose the particular type of information that is transmitted or communicated via the tunnel, and the types of transmission that are transmitted not via a tunnel, as required by Claim 17. Rather, it appears that the Office Action is merely attempting to combine a reference that teaches communication between two devices not via a tunnel, and an unrelated reference that teaches communication via a tunnel to reject the claims, without considering the functional limitations recited in Claim 17.

For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 17 (and all associated dependent claims) is rendered moot by the present amendment to that claim.

Further, Applicants note that the Office Action on pages 17 and 18 discusses an interpretation of the claims requiring broadcast via the tunnel and at the same time data communication conducted with a service providing server not via the tunnel. In this regard, Applicants note that, as is clear from the claims and the specification, the service notification via the tunnel and the data communication not via the tunnel are not carried out at the same time.

Independent Claims 1 and 11 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 17, and have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendment to Claim 17. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 17, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 1 and 11 (and all similarly rejected dependent claims) are rendered moot by the present amendment to Claims 1 and 11.

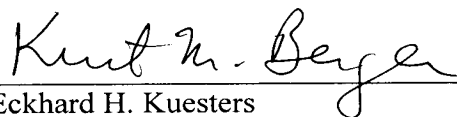
Regarding the rejection of dependent Claims 4, 5, 9, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Applicants respectfully submit that the '751 and '020 applications fail to remedy the deficiencies of the '368 patent and the '087 application, as discussed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of dependent Claims 4, 5, 9, and 15 are rendered moot by the present amendment to independent Claims 1 and 11.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 11, and 17 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the cited references.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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